

largely always been an issue left to the states. The continued federalization of criminal law requires a tremendous expansion in the size and scope of Federal law enforcement, Federal prosecutors, and frankly, Federal power. For too long, Congress has used the Constitution's Commerce Clause to expand the Federal government's reach in what was traditionally the jurisdiction of the states. However, the U.S. Supreme Court recently struck down two federal statutes in *U.S. v. Lopez* (1995) and *U.S. v. Morrison* (2000) because they violated our traditional constitutional divisions of authority. I would not be surprised if the Court one day declared unconstitutional other far-reaching Federal crime measures, including Federal "hate crimes."

There is another constitutional problem with giving "sexual orientation" special treatment. Current characteristics which are classified as hate crimes under federal law include race, ethnicity, sex, national origin, religion, and disability. All of these characteristics—except religion—are what the Supreme Court has called "immutable." That is, if a person is black, or a woman, or from Pakistan, or paralyzed from the waist down, it is not of their choice. It is beyond their control, they cannot change. Therefore, if their characteristic is immutable it cannot, for lack of a better description, be held against them.

Now, good people can disagree about this issue, but the fact remains that homosexuality is not necessarily a trait with which someone is born. In other words, this type of "sexual orientation" is not immutable, but to a large degree it is chosen. The Supreme Court has certainly never considered "sexual orientation" to be an immutable characteristic. Why should we?

Mr. Speaker, I believe that violent crimes against any American are despicable. They should be punished swiftly and severely, to the fullest extent of the law. But we should not give special treatment to certain victims, we should not penalize citizens for their beliefs, and we should not federalize "hate crimes."

I urge my colleagues to vote against this Motion.

RECOGNIZING QUENTIN
TEMPLETON FOR ACHIEVING
THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Quentin Templeton of Kearney, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. A recognition ceremony will be held in honor of Quentin on October 9th at Community Coventry Church in Kearney.

Quentin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Quentin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Quentin Templeton for his ac-

complishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING BOB MILEWSKI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mr. Bob Milewski, as he receives the 2004 Alexander Macomb "Man of the Year" Award from the March of Dimes.

Bob Milewski's business card reads: President and CEO, Mount Clemens General Hospital. Yet his influence stretches even further beyond the hospital campus, and his title doesn't capture his devotion to Macomb County and its citizens. For Bob Milewski, his vocation is an opportunity to serve the community he loves.

Bob Milewski was born and raised in Center Line, Michigan. He married his high school sweetheart, Nancy, and they have been married for 33 years. All three of their children, Amy, Jeff and Amanda, were born at Mount Clemens General. They are the proud grandparents of Gavin, Garrett, and Grant.

Bob Milewski has worked at both Children's Hospital of Michigan and Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. He came to Mount Clemens General as Chief Operating Office (COO) in September, 1993 and was promoted to Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in September, 1997.

Since 1997, Bob Milewski has strongly and enthusiastically led Mount Clemens General, which has seen a 50 percent growth in inpatient admissions and 300 percent growth in outpatient activity during his tenure. Of course, Mr. Milewski would say that those numbers only have meaning if you know the people behind the statistics: his neighbors, church members, professionals, associates, friends and family who have long trusted Mount Clemens General for their healthcare.

Community linkage is of the utmost importance to Bob Milewski. Not only does he believe the hospital should offer outstanding healthcare to its residents, but that it should support the community by having its staff involved in community organizations. Mr. Milewski himself is heavily involved in many local organizations, including Leadership Macomb, Mount Clemens Lions Club, Rockpointe Community Church, Selfridge Air National Guard Base Council, Greater Detroit Area Health Council, Michigan Healthcare Executive Group and Associates, Michigan Health and Hospital Association, American College of Healthcare Executives, and the American Osteopathic Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a terrific individual, an outstanding leader, and a worthy recipient of this annual Macomb County recognition by the March of Dimes.

BROWN TREE SNAKE CONTROL
AND ERADICATION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3479 was introduced to provide a more coordinated and consistent approach in dealing with the brown tree snake, which has decimated native bird populations in Guam since its accidental introduction following World War II. Today, the brown tree snake poses a direct threat to the environment and economies of the Mariana Islands and the Hawaiian Islands, and to a lesser extent, Coastal California, the Gulf States, and the Caribbean. If not effectively contained in Guam, the brown tree snake could prove to be devastating should it make its way further outside its native and historic range. The brown tree snake, whose scientific name is *Boiga irregularis*, is especially prone to tropical climate and with no natural predators can virtually destroy an ecosystem. This invasive species has already irrevocably harmed Guam's environment.

With the level of military and commercial air and sea traffic between Guam and points in the Pacific Region, including Saipan and Honolulu, increasing on an almost daily basis, the need for effective control of the brown tree snake correspondingly rises. For over a decade, a Federal partnership has existed with the Government of Guam and the State of Hawaii in preventing the brown tree snake's transport off Guam. This partnership emerged following the introduction of the first legislation in Congress dealing with the brown tree snake. That measure was H.R. 4804 in the 101st Congress, introduced by former Congresswoman Patricia Saiki (Hawaii) and former Congressman Ben Blaz (Guam), whose purpose was eventually incorporated into and enacted as part of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990. H.R. 3479 builds upon this law by providing more programmatic authorization and direction for the Federal elements of the overall partnership to combat the brown tree snake.

The legislation provides funding authority for eleven specific authorized activities relating to control, interdiction, research and eradication. It authorizes appropriations for five offices and agencies under the Department of Agriculture and the Department of the Interior to support and coordinate the different elements of this overall work. Apart from these two cabinet level agencies, it is expected that strong support and cooperation will continue to come from the Department of Defense, who has a major stake in reducing brown tree snake populations on military installations in Guam and in preventing the accidental or incidental transport of the brown tree snake off Guam.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been at the center of this partnership, with its Wildlife Services operating a program to screen outbound cargo at the airport and seaport for brown tree snakes. This partnership has proven effective at interdicting snakes, although stands to gain much more Federal backing and resources in order to ultimately succeed in its mission. In recent years the program has struggled to keep up